

**Amendments to the Claims:**

1-32. (canceled)

33. (currently amended) An isolated nucleic acid comprising:

(a) ~~a nucleic acid sequence encoding the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:77 shown in Figure 46 (SEQ ID NO:77);~~

(b) ~~a nucleic acid sequence encoding the polypeptide shown in Figure 46 (SEQ ID NO:77), lacking its associated signal peptide;~~

(c) ~~a nucleic acid sequence encoding the extracellular domain coding sequence from within the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:76 of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:77 shown in Figure 46 (SEQ ID NO:77);~~

(d) ~~a nucleic acid sequence encoding the extracellular domain of the polypeptide shown in Figure 46 (SEQ ID NO:77), lacking its associated signal peptide;~~

[[(e)]] (d) the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:76 shown in Figure 45 (SEQ ID NO:76);

[[(f)]] (e) the full-length coding sequence from within of the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:76 shown in Figure 45 (SEQ ID NO:76); or

[[(g)]] (f) the full-length coding sequence of the cDNA deposited under ATCC accession number 203292.

34. (currently amended) The isolated nucleic acid of Claim 33 comprising a nucleic acid sequence encoding the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:77 shown in Figure 46 (SEQ ID NO:77).

35. (currently amended) The isolated nucleic acid of Claim 33 comprising a nucleic acid sequence encoding the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:77 shown in Figure 46 (SEQ ID NO:77), lacking its associated signal peptide.

36. (currently amended) The isolated nucleic acid of Claim 33 comprising a nucleic acid sequence encoding the extracellular domain of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:77 shown in Figure 46 (SEQ ID NO:77).

37. (canceled)

38. (currently amended) The isolated nucleic acid of Claim 33 comprising the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:76 shown in Figure 45 (SEQ ID NO:76).

39. (currently amended) The isolated nucleic acid of Claim 33 comprising the full-length coding sequence of the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:76 shown in Figure 45 (SEQ ID NO:76).

40. (previously presented) The isolated nucleic acid of Claim 33 comprising the full-length coding sequence of the cDNA deposited under ATCC accession number 203292.

41. (canceled)

42. (canceled)

43. (canceled)

44. (currently amended) A vector comprising the nucleic acid of Claim 33 28.

45. (previously presented) The vector of Claim 44, wherein said nucleic acid is operably linked to control sequences recognized by a host cell transformed with the vector.

46. (previously presented) A host cell comprising the vector of Claim 44.

47. (previously presented) The host cell of Claim 46, wherein said cell is a CHO cell, an *E. coli* or a yeast cell.

48. (new) An isolated nucleic acid molecule at least 20 nucleotides in length that hybridizes under stringent conditions to:

- (a) the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 76 or a complement thereof;
- (b) the full-length coding sequence of the cDNA deposited under ATCC accession number 203292 or a complement thereof;

wherein, said stringent conditions use 50% formamide, 5 x SSC, 50 mM sodium phosphate (pH 6.8), 0.1% sodium pyrophosphate, 5x Denhardt's solution, sonicated salmon sperm DNA (50 µg/ml), 0.1% SDS, and 10% dextran sulfate at 42 °C, with washes at 42 °C in 0.2 x SSC and 50% formamide at 55 °C, followed by a wash comprising of 0.1 x SSC containing EDTA at 55 °C, wherein said isolated nucleic acid molecule is suitable for use as a PCR primer or probe.

49. (new) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of Claim 48 that is at least 50 nucleotides.

50. (new) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of Claim 48 that is at least 60 nucleotides.

51. (new) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of Claim 48 that is at least 70 nucleotides.

52. (new) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of Claim 48 that is at least 80 nucleotides.

53. (new) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of Claim 48 that is at least 90 nucleotides.

54. (new) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of Claim 48 that is at least 100 nucleotides.